

CORONER'S JURY RECOMMENDS THAT NO CHARGES BE MADE AGAINST JEAN P. DAY

MANY ARE INJURED WHEN NEW ORLEANS IS VISITED BY FIRE

HELD THAT HE WAS JUSTIFIED IN KILLING LIEUT.-COLONEL BECK

Day Says that He Shot Accidentally When He Tried to Drive Beck from House.

Neither Mr. or Mrs. Day Dis-
play Any Emotion When
Verdict of Jury Is Read.

(By The Associated Press)
OKLAHOMA CITY, April 8.—Holding that Jean P. Day, prominent attorney and oil man was justified in the killing of Lieutenant Colonel Paul Ward Beck at the Day home early Tuesday, a coroner's jury returned a verdict here tonight recommending that no charges be preferred against Day.

On the witness stand in a packed court room here tonight, Jean P. Day and his wife told, with emotion of the playing of Lieutenant Colonel Beck. In a broken voice but with a gleam of determination in his eye, Day said he killed the army aviator accidentally when he sought to drive Beck from his home after finding him attempting to attack Mrs. Day early Tuesday.

"Beck threw his arms around me, crying 'girl, girl, you swept me off my feet,' and asked me to come to his room that night," Mrs. Day testified. "I saw Colonel Beck holding Mrs. Day on the divan," said Day. "She was fighting him. He had his right arm around her. His other hand was about her knees."

The crowded court room was silent as it heard the verdict read. Mr. and Mrs. Day displayed no emotion, and after it had been read, they arose. Mr. Day shook hands with Coroner McWilliams, and the party walked slowly from the room without a word between them.

The text of the verdict follows:

"We, the coroner's jury, duly sworn and empaneled to inquire into the cause of the death of Paul Ward Beck, after hearing evidence introduced before us from witnesses, and after viewing the body of Paul Ward Beck, do upon our oath find and report:

"That Paul Ward Beck came to his death at the hands of Jean P. Day and from the evidence submitted to us conclude that Jean P. Day was justified in defending his wife and himself even though the unfortunate affair resulted in the death of Paul Ward Beck, and we therefore recommend and advise that no charges be filed or prosecution instituted against Jean P. Day."

The verdict was signed by all six of the jurors.

"I got there in time to protect her, and I did," declared Day.

"He jumped back and put his hand back as if to fight," Day said, "and I struck him with all my might." Day said he did not know whether his finger was on the trigger of his revolver. He testified the weapon discharged accidentally.

"One time I caught the gun and put it to my head, but I didn't shoot. I thought of my wife and child," said Day, relating how he surprised Beck, entering the house and went to an upstairs room where he obtained the revolver.

"I did not intend to kill him. That is the truth."

Leaving over and pointing his finger at County Attorney Hughes, Day said in a pleading voice.

"I want to say to you boys you can prosecute me to the limit, but don't make such statements as you have to the newspapers reflecting on the purest, sweetest woman in the world."

The county attorney retorted that he had tried to be fair, but that it was his position as the representative of the state to bring out every angle of the case.

"You don't know what you are saying, I couldn't do that," Mrs. Day testified she replied to Beck. She said she did not hear her husband enter the house when he went to get his revolver.

"I don't know whether I beat his face," said Day, declaring she used both hands to fight off Beck's left arm.

Mrs. Day testified she first saw her husband as he descended the stairs with a revolver in one hand.

"My God, daddy, don't do that," she said she cried.

Beck jumped up from the divan, meanwhile, and had retreated to another room, she said.

The next thing she said, she saw the body of Beck lying on the floor.

"I did not see the shot fired. I did not hear the report," Mrs. Day testified.

"I looked down and saw his lips (Continued on Page Seven)

SECRETARY OF NAVY LAUNCHES FIGHT ON REPORTED NAVAL BILL

Denby Says 65,000 Men, Which the Committee Proposes, Will Make the United States Navy Two-thirds the Size of Force of Great Britain and Less Than Japan.

(By The Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, April 8.—Secretary Denby tonight launched a fight on the naval bill, as reported to the house, taking flat issue with the contention that it will provide an American navy on the ration of 5-5-3.

In a formal statement and in a communication to the house naval committee, made public today for the first time, it is disclosed that Secretary Denby and the naval experts contend that by the reductions of personnel proposed in the bill the ratio actually will be five for Great Britain, three for Japan and two and a half for the United States.

Five of the 18 battleships allowed to the United States by the naval limitation treaty, Secretary Denby says, will have to go out of commission for lack of crews to man them; the European stations will have to be abandoned; all of the 12-inch gun ships will be included in those laid up; all submarines of the second line will have to be put out of commission as will all small crafts used for training reservists.

With an enlisted force of 65,000 men, which the committee proposes instead of the 90,000 asked by the naval establishment, the United States navy, Mr. Denby says, will be reduced to two-thirds of the force of Great Britain and less than Japan.

Characterizing the bill as "a challenge to the common sense of our people," Mr. Denby in his formal statement says:

"Should the bill just reported become law, it would be a blow to the navy and to the prestige of the United States.

"Whatever appropriations of men and money are allowed, the navy will be administered by the department in an earnest and cheerful endeavor to keep it as effective as possible. I feel that I should be recreant to a plain duty, however, if I did not solemnly warn the American people that the proposed reduction negatives the results of the recent conference, is dangerous to the country's security and, in my opinion, to the welfare of the world.

"If this bill becomes a law, it will mean that five battleships of the 18 provided for in the treaty must be put in ordinary, with caretakers. It will mean that, having gathered the nations together and having conducted to a successful conclusion negotiations intended to establish the relative defense sea armaments of the different powers, we, from the earnestly insisted-upon position of equality with any nation in the world, drop to second or third place. I do not believe in making a mockery of the conference. I do not believe in throwing away our sea power."

HOW TO KEEP POLITICS OUT IS WORRY TO CONFERENCE HEADS

Publicists Insist Genoa Meet Will Be of Political Nature and Not Economic.

(By The Associated Press)
GENOA, April 8.—How to prevent the forthcoming economic conference from losing its proclaimed economic principle and from falling into a purely political convulsion, precarious in its possibilities and admittedly a supreme danger, is preoccupying the chief delegates as they gather for the opening sessions. This, it is believed, is the rock on which the conference may founder.

Publicists assembled here from many countries to observe the proceedings, openly insist that the conference will fundamentally and inevitably be of a profound political nature, and not economic, pointing as also to the national and racial ambitions and problems due to dividing the continent into new and smaller states.

The great majority of the delegates have reached Genoa. The British Prime minister, Mr. Lloyd George, was enthusiastically greeted upon his arrival today.

Every mind is concentrated on Russia, for the commercial reopening of Russia may possibly mean later recognition and formal admission of that country into the council of nations.

Determined to see its house in order if possible without the assistance of the United States the conference is organizing for action, in the belief that the United States must eventually ratify its main achievement if they are to prove durable, and the influence of the American republic, even if voiced at Genoa, undoubtedly obtains as a strong psychological force.

CAMPAIGN TO GET NON-UNION MINERS

Workers Claim Victories in Coal Fields of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky.

(By The Associated Press)
PITTSBURGH, April 8.—The beginning of the second week of the strike of coal miners in this region found officials of the United Mine Workers of America launching a more intensive campaign to organize non-union districts, especially the great Connellville coke region, where the union made progress this week.

Today's developments in the strike showed additional non-union plants in the coke region closed down by strikes, including three Frick and one independent mines. Despite this push by the union, operators pointed to railroad loading figures as an indication that their mines were producing.

The first attempt at a settlement of the controversy in the Somerset field came today when miners of the Lochrie-Price interests at Seanor, who had joined the union several days ago, approached the owners and declared they would return to work if the company recognized the union. D. T. Price, manager of the mines, replied that "before such recognition was granted" he would let the mines fill up with water."

SEVENTEEN PERSONS REPORTED KILLED BY TORNADO IN TEXAS

Sweeps Over Western Part of Texas into Oklahoma, Headed Toward Arkansas.

(By The Associated Press)
DALLAS, Texas, April 8.—Seventeen persons are reported dead and more than 80 injured as a result of tornadoes and rainstorms which swept from west Texas east into Oklahoma, toward Arkansas early today. Reports from some of the stricken towns are meagre, officials said.

The list of casualties reported tonight showed:

Russells county, near Rowhita, Texas, nine dead, 20 injured.

Oplin, Callahan county, four dead, 20 injured.

Electra, one dead, several injured.

Cleburn, Texas, one dead, one injured.

Lowtown, Okla., two dead, 17 injured.

Dallas, five injured.

Cleco, Texas, two injured.

Ranger, Texas, one injured.

Caddo, Texas, six injured.

White, Texas, one injured.

Brookridge, Texas, three injured.

Graham, Texas, one injured.

WANTS GOVERNMENT OWN MUSCLE SHOALS

Senator Norris Proposes that Nitrate Project Be Conducted by Three Directors.

(By The Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, (April 8).—A government owned and operated corporation to be conducted under the supervision of three directors appointed by the president for development of the vast nitrate and water projects at Muscle Shoals, Ala., was proposed in a congressional resolution made public tonight by Senator Norris of Nebraska, chairman of the senate agricultural committee. It will be introduced in the senate Monday and referred to the agricultural committee for consideration in connection with hearings beginning then on the four private proposals for Muscle Shoals submitted by Henry Ford, the Alabama Power Company, Frederick E. Engstrom, and Charles Parsons.

While no appropriation is asked for the development of the project, congressional authority is requested for the creation of a "federal chemical corporation" and for the secretary of war to "complete the construction of dams numbers 2 and 3 in the Tennessee river" as well as the making of surveys in the river and its tributaries for the location of storage reservoirs and if necessary the construction of additional dams there.

OPPOSE REDUCTION DINING CAR WAGES

George Scott Says Tips in Traveling Restaurants Have Taken Decided Slump.

(By The Associated Press)
CHICAGO, April 8.—So-called independent railroad labor organizations had their inning today before the United States railroad labor board, fighting any reduction in pay as sought by the majority of the country's roads. The smaller organizations left the major fight to the eleven non-brief statements to the board.

The plight of the dining car waiter and cook was pictured by George Scott, of the national brotherhood of dining car employees of the railwaymen's international benevolent industrial association, a negro organization. In the longest presentation of the day, Mr. Scott declared that only 50 to 60 per cent of the people who formerly used dining car service, "now patronized the traveling restaurants and that as a consequence income from tips had taken a decided slump."

"With a reduction" already in force in tips, Mr. Scott argued that a wage decrease would be unfair. He pointed out that some roads were placing a line on the bottom of menus reading "tips not necessary."

Anthony Chlepok, president of the Longshoremen, made a strong plea against a reduction of wages in his organization.

CAMP SAUFLEY WILL SOON BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Through Efforts of Industrial Commission of Chamber of Commerce, Lease Has Been Secured from Secretary of War and Committee Authorized to Work Out Resort Plans.

Summer visitors to Pensacola and our own people will be assured of a real bathing resort on Santa Rosa island this year.

Through the efforts of the Industrial commission a lease was secured for the use of the Camp Saufley site on Santa Rosa island from Secretary of War Weeks, and a committee was authorized to work out the plans for the resort development.

This committee is composed of Dr. C. E. Hutchinson, Paul P. Stewart, F. W. Marsh, Felo McAllister, Ben Clutter and T. L. Gant, who have worked earnestly for the development of the property and who now announce all plans perfected.

Mr. A. M. Avery has been appointed manager of Saufley Beach and is devoting his entire time to getting things in shape for the opening day which, it is hoped, will be May 1st.

Active co-operation of the officials of the naval air station and navy department and of the war department has materially assisted in making this development possible.

It is the purpose of the committee to make Saufley Beach a real show place and delightful bathing resort. To that end the contemplated improvements for the most part, which are already in process of construction consists of the building of a substantial pier, 700 feet in length, with an extended landing space, the entire length of the pier being protected by hand rails.

From the pier a nine foot board walk is being constructed leading directly to the recreation pavilion. This pavilion, which is the former mess hall, will be divided so as to provide a comfortable dining hall, with a seating capacity of 200. The other section will be devoted to recreational purposes and the entire building will be screened, and on regular evenings good music will be provided.

A board walk will connect the recreation pavilion with the bathing pavilion, which will contain dressing rooms for both men and women, as well as several private dressing rooms. The men's dressing rooms will be equipped with four showers and the (Continued on Page Seven)

NAVAL BILL CARRYING OUT THE 5-5-3 RATIO REPORTED TO HOUSE

Carries Total of \$233,224,000, or \$181,000,000 Less Than That of Last Year.

(By The Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, April 8.—The 1923 naval bill, carrying out the 5-5-3 ratio was reported today to the house. It carries a total of \$233,224,000 or \$181,000,000, less than appropriated last year. There remains to be appropriated in a separate measure later, however, about \$60,000,000, estimated by the navy department as the cost of cancellation of contracts for ships not completed and ordered scrapped.

Briefly, this is what the bill does: 95,000 to 65,000, plus 2,000 apprentices. Leaves officer total substantially intact except for the dropping of 389 reserve officers on active duty.

Authorizes commissions for only 200 of the 585 first class men at Annapolis, to be graduated in June.

Lays up 254 vessels "of nondescript character."

Eighteen battleships are allotted the United States under the naval treaty. In rounding out a fleet the bill reduces the number of destroyers in commission from 278 to 104; authorizes 84 submarines, all the cruisers, and lighter auxiliary craft.

Out of the 67,000 enlist personnel it provides 50,000 for ships at sea.

Provides for the same number of officers in marine corps and 19,500 enlisted men, a reduction of less than 1,000. This number, the navy advised the committee, will be cut to 17,500 with the withdrawal in the next year of 2,000 marines from Santo Domingo, who will not reenlist.

FEDERAL TROOPS TO BE THE LAST RESORT

Will Not Interfere in the Coal Strike Unless All State Agencies Fail.

(By The Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, April 8.—The administration's determination not to use federal troops in the coal strike unless all state agencies fail in preserving order was set forth clearly today after a conference between President Harding and Secretary Weeks.

A request for troops from the governor of New Mexico was flatly denied. The decision left the house labor committee as the only federal agency attempting to deal with the strike, and although it continued its hearings during the day there was no indication that the mass of testimony taken would lead to action in the near future. Today's contribution to the committee record, was a statement by Phil H. Penna, a former miners' union official, and now an operator, blaming the present crisis on failure of the men to keep their contracts, as a public announcement of the administration's hands of policy so far as use of federal troops are concerned, Secretary Weeks made public after his visit to the White House a telegram to Governor McEhem of New Mexico, replying to an appeal for help in handling the situation in his state.

"Unless disorder develops to a point where state authorities are unable to preserve order," said the message, "federal troops cannot be used in connection with the coal strike."

FERTILIZER PLANT DESTROYED BY FIRE

(By The Associated Press)
CONCORD, Ga., April 8.—The R. F. Strickland fertilizer and feed mill plant was destroyed by fire of undetermined origin today, the loss being estimated at \$75,000.

BEAUTIFUL ELKS HOME RUINED BY CONFLAGRATION

Seventeen Injured Firemen Were Taken from Building and Placed in Hospital.

TWO MEN ARE KNOWN TO BE BURIED IN WRECKAGE

Fire Thought to Have Originated from Friction of Fan Belt—\$250,000 Damage.

(By The Associated Press)
NEW ORLEANS, April 8.—Two men are buried in the ruins of the auditorium and gymnasium of the Elks home, which was partially wrecked by fire tonight. Seventeen injured firemen were taken from the building to hospitals. The men are pinned by rafters and efforts are being made to rescue them. It is not known whether they are dead. Both are firemen. Early estimates of property loss was given at \$250,000.

NEW ORLEANS, April 8.—The Elks home is one of the handsomest in the United States. The building was crowded when the blaze was discovered on the fourth floor. Nine injured have been taken to the hospitals.

The injured were firemen who were fighting the blaze in the auditorium when the roof collapsed. Although the home was crowded with its usual Saturday night assemblage of men and women, all escaped unhurt. The fire originated from friction caused by a fan belt, it was reported.

PLENTY EXCITEMENT FOR ALLEGED CROOK

General Semenov Finds Legal Warfare as Exciting as Rattle of Machine Guns.

(By The Associated Press)
NEW YORK, April 8.—Gen. Gregorie Semenov, ataman of Cossacks, today seemed to find legal warfare in the canyon of lower Broadway as exciting as the rattle of machine guns on the steppes of Siberia.

Flanked by his American lawyer and a band of Russian supporters, he was whisked up in an elevator to the twenty-second floor of the Equitable building and there, for the second day, was bombarded with questions at a bankruptcy hearing which followed his civil arrest in connection with a judgment for \$478,578 alleged to have been returned against him by Harbin courts. The plaintiff in action was the Yurovets Home and Foreign Trading company, which arrested that the sum represented supplies alleged to have been stolen by the general at Chita.

The general has been painted by his enemies as a man of fierce nature, who waded through the blood of his victims, but he seemed just a little abashed up there in a New York skyscraper with lawyers and reporters battling away at him in a language he did not understand. Indeed he was far from a intimidating figure as he looked inquiringly from one questioner to another, but every now and then he exploded with an expression that interpreters said meant "liar" after a question had been put to him in Russian.

GEORGIA MURDER CASE RESULTS IN MISTRIAL

(By The Associated Press)
IRWINGTON, Ga., April 8.—The jury in the case of Jim Jerry Bloodworth on trial in Wilkinson county superior court, charged with the slaying of G. W. Butler, was discharged late this afternoon, a mistrial being declared. The jury was out 24 hours. Testimony showed that Butler proceeded to Bloodworth's home to apologize. The later statement on the witness stand that he thought the call was not to be a friendly one.

HEAVY EARTHQUAKE OCCURS IN MEXICO

(By The Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, April 8.—A rather pronounced earthquake shock was registered on the seismograph at Georgetown university today, the distance being estimated at 3,400 miles from Washington, probably to the south. Belief was expressed that the disturbance may have occurred in Mexico. The tremors began at 8:51 p. m. and continued until 4:00. The maximum being registered at 4:08 o'clock.

WOUNDS INFLICTED BY DAUGHTER PROVE FATAL

(By The Associated Press)
ST. LOUIS, April 8.—George L. Ritchie, 53 years old, a butcher, died at the city hospital this afternoon from bullet wounds inflicted yesterday by his daughter, Maude, 18, a telephone operator, who asserted he was abusing Mrs. Ritchie.